

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 1. In a method of making a denture from digital information corresponding to at least a part of a human oral cavity wherein the digital information is used to generate information for rapid prototyping of the denture, the improvement comprising:

10 adding to the digital information, additional digital data selected from an archive of digital data selected from a group of digital data consisting of artificial image digital data and actual image digital data, which additional digital data depicts a denture, last said denture being selected from the group consisting of a full upper denture and a full lower denture, said digital information and said additional digital data being based on image information in a form wherein all of said digital information and said additional data are combined and viewable as a computer generated composite image;

15 carrying out the rapid manufacturing of at least one full denture using said digital information with the said additional digital data whereby the denture made substantially resembles the digital data viewable as the computer generated composite image; including using a computer system as a part of said adding to the digital information; and, including processing at least said artificial image data used in producing said denture using a computer system.

25 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said additional digital data comprises a reference point derived from archived actual image digital data, and said archived actual image data being derived at least in part from a laser scan of the oral cavity having a pre-existing set of teeth located substantially in a plane and wherein in the rapid manufacturing process a plastic material is used to create the denture and for making the denture disposable.

30 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the pre-existing set of teeth is a pre-existing artificial denture.

4. The method according to claim 2, wherein the pre-existing set of teeth comprises natural teeth and partially restored teeth.

5 5. The method according to claim 2, wherein the pre-existing set of teeth consists of natural teeth.

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10 6. In a method of making a denture from digital information corresponding to a part of a human oral cavity wherein the digital information is used to generate information for rapid prototyping of the denture, the improvement comprising:

adding to the digital information, additional digital data selected from archive of digital data, which additional data depicts both an upper and a lower denture and which digital information and said additional digital information is based on image information in a form wherein all of said digital data are viewable as a computer generated composite image;

15 carrying out the rapid manufacturing of said dentures using said digital information with the added data to make a matching set of upper and lower dentures wherein the matching set of upper and lower dentures made substantially resembles the digital data viewable as the computer generated composite image; and further including as part of said step of adding to the digital information, the step of processing at least said artificial image data used in producing said

20 dentures using a CAD programmed computer system wherein a style comprising of shape, color, size, and texture is selected.

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7. In a method of making a denture from digital information corresponding to a part of a human oral cavity wherein the digital information is used to generate information for rapid prototyping of the denture, the improvement comprising: Adding additional digital data to the digital
5 information, said additional digital data being selected from an archive of digital data, which additional data depicts an upper and a lower denture, said additional digital data being derived from image information acquired by a laser topological image scan of the human oral cavity without teeth therein; carrying out the additional step of rapid manufacturing of said dentures using said digital information with the added digital data to make a matching set of upper and
10 lower disposable plastic dentures wherein the non- juxtaposing surfaces of said matching set of upper and lower dentures substantially resembles digital data stored from a laser topological scan image of the human oral cavity for teeth previously therein.

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